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AN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES FOR ILLINOIS

DR. A. R. CROOK, curator of the Museum of Natural History of the State of Illinois, has addressed the following letter to men of science in the state:

"There is a widespread belief that our state should proceed to establish an Academy of Sciences. Ours is one of the few states in the middle west which is without such an institution.

"I. Such an academy will furnish an efficient medium for reaching all the various scientific groups of the state when scientific matters of public interest and common welfare are to be presented.

"II. At its meetings men of science throughout the state may interchange ideas and make the personal acquaintance of men working perhaps in other lines or of men known hitherto only by their writings.

"III. Men of greater achievement and success will inevitably stimulate and encourage beginners and men of less attainments.

"IV. The important contributions to knowledge made by the scientific men of Illinois will be disseminated so that all of us may learn of the important researches, inventions, and applications which are being made by our fellow citizens.

"More than one hundred men in different universities, colleges, normal and high schools, and museums have expressed their interest.

"The Academy should comprise every worker in science in the state, its roll being an almost complete scientific directory for Illinois.

"You are invited to be present at a meeting which will be held for the organization of such an institution at Springfield, on Saturday the seventh of December, 1907.

"The meeting will be held in the Senate Chamber of the Capitol at 10 o'clock in the morning."

SECTION G, BOTANY, OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE coming meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will take place at the University of Chicago from

December 30, 1907, to January 4, 1908. The sessions of Section G will be held in the Hull Botanical Laboratory.

It is important for the satisfactory prosecution of the business of the secretary that the titles of papers, accompanied by brief abstracts of not more than 200 words, be in his hands a few days before the initial date of the convocation. Inasmuch as the office of the secretary is at too great a distance for quick mail service, members are particularly requested to forward titles and abstracts to the secretary in care of Dr. Henry C. Cowles, Hull Botanical Laboratory, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., in whose hands they should be not later than December 20.

F. E. LLOYD,
Secretary, Section G

MAZAPIL, ZAC., MEX.,

November 1, 1907

THE CENTENARY OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

ONE hundred years ago, a handful of men in England, convinced that speculation is not true science, organized the Geological Society of London. With the foundation of that society the era of speculation came to an end, that of investigation began and geology, as we now know it, was born. Throughout one hundred years, the society has adhered consistently to the original policy, discouraging mere speculation but encouraging comparative geology. In its voluminous publications one finds results of study in all parts of the world and its members have proved themselves in many cases veritable helpers to students in newly settled countries. The list of presidents tells of the society's influence, for the names of most of them, from Greenough to Geikie, are as household words among geologists of all lands.

The centenary of the society was celebrated in London on September 26, 27 and 28 of this year. More than one hundred delegates representing an equal number of societies came from other countries with greetings to the parent geological society, while representatives from nearly every important scientific association in Great Britain and Ireland were